

Pachkovsky, Alex

From: Marinelli, George
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2013 11:13 AM
To: Jud Testimony
Subject: FW: SB-123 Testimony

From: richclvt@cox.net
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2013 11:12:29 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: Marinelli, George
Subject: SB-123 Testimony

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March 22, 2013

Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2B
Hartford, CT 06106

Honorable Members:

I strongly support the following bill proposals

- SB-123 (AN ACT REPEALING THE RISK REDUCTION CREDIT PROGRAM)

After submitting a number of written testimonies to the L.O.B. opposing recent bill proposals attempting to impose over-reaching authority on law abiding citizens, it is refreshing to see a bill I can support.

I was an opponent of the Risk Reduction Credit Program when it was passed in July 2011 and oppose still today. This legislation coupled with last year's repeal of the death penalty is a clear indication that this partisan CT State Legislature has no qualms in sacrificing public safety in the name of balancing a budget. It appears it is more important to nurture the progressive guise that we treat criminals humanely instead of addressing our mismanaged state budget and allocate the appropriate funds to keep violent offenders where they belong.

The FIRST and most important duty of a government is to protect its citizens from violent predators whose sentences should never be reduced to accommodate prison officials or their budgets. Based on the recent anti-gun legislation proposals and the previous legislation advocating soft-on-crime punishment, we succeed in nothing more than empowering the criminal element. Homicidal maniacs like Frankie Resto and Kezlyn Mendez love your legislative moxie- their victims, maybe not so much.

The funding this state unwisely allocates, such as the New Britain/Hartford bus-line-to-nowhere, UCONN improvements that can certainly wait until the economy rebounds, unwarranted business tax rebates and a plethora of other partisan pet projects, could be used to bolster our correctional departments. Those hundreds of millions could certainly be put to use in building new facilities and hiring staff to keep violent offenders off the street. It might even have a positive unintended consequence of allowing state prosecutors to reduce the insane practice of plea bargaining to a lesser charge.

It is my opinion that this legislative body should consider bill proposal SB-123 and address the judicial/corrections systematic flaws with the same fervor it does in soliciting anti-gun legislation and over-spending. With that kind of effort, I believe we can keep the criminal element accountable in a very short period of time.

Despite the sarcasm, I appreciate the opportunity to present my perspective to this committee, appreciate the efforts of our state legislators and am hopeful that a sensible conclusion is eminent.

Thank you
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